

United States House of Representatives



**Subcommittee on National Security,
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

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Rep. Shays to Convene Third Hearing on U.N. Oil-for-Food Program

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (R-CT), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations today announced the panel will hold an oversight hearing April 12 to examine United Nations (UN) management of the Iraq sanctions regime and its humanitarian aid component, the Oil-for-Food Program (OFFP).

Witnesses include two former U.N. employees familiar with Security Council deliberations and sanctions policy implementation by the office the Secretary General.

This will be the Subcommittee's third hearing on the scandal-plagued program which is also the subject of an independent inquiry headed by former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker. The hearing will convene Tuesday, April 12, 11 a.m. in room 2247 of the Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

"It was clear from the start that many members of the Security Council had little interest in enforcing sanctions against Iraq," Shays said. "The Oil-for-Food Program simply added a legitimate pretext to the lucrative line of sanctions-busting activities already operating to the benefit of some U.N. Member States and the Iraqi regime. Once Oil-for-Food was fashioned to Saddam's liking, the failure of the sanctions regime to achieve its goals was inevitable."

Records of meetings and decisions by the Security Council Iraq Sanctions Committee ("the 661 Committee") will be discussed at the hearing.

Witness List

PANEL ONE

Mr. Thomas A. Schweich

Chief of Staff

U.S. Mission to the United Nations

U.S. Department of State

PANEL TWO

Dr. Paul Conlon

Owner, Transjuris e.K. (Munich, Germany)

former Deputy Secretary

United National Security Council, Iraq Sanctions Committee

Mr. Andrew Mack

Director, Centre for Human Security

University of British Columbia (Canada)

former Director of Strategic Planning

Executive Office of United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan

Dr. Joy C. Gordon

Associate Professor of Philosophy

Fairfield University